



Carthage Corner

November, 2004 Quarterly Newsletter

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Elanco Products

Important Industry Dates:

Carthage Veterinary Service, Ltd. Annual Swine Conference
August 30, 2005

Illinois Pork Expo
Peoria Civic Center
February 1-2, 2005

World Pork Expo
Iowa State Fairgrounds
June 9-11, 2005

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A note from Dr. Sarah Probst Miller of Carthage Veterinary Service, Ltd.

Fall and Winter Checklist

Fall and Winter is a great time for transmission of viruses and bacteria. PRRS, SIV, TGE, Rotavirus, ileitis, *Streptococcus suis*, and *Haemophilus parasuis* are more active during the winter due to survivability in the environment. Your prevention/control program should be reviewed with us for each of these.

Several commercial vaccines are available for immunization against the common Flu strains of H1N1 and H3N2. Your vaccination program needs to be specific for your herd depending whether you are vaccinating to immunize a population (sow herd) or maximizing colostral antibodies to protect suckling and nursery pigs.

As we head into wet cool weather, remember that this is the ideal time to transfer PRRS. Make sure we review your biosecurity on farm soon to prep for winter. Scrutinizing your transport cleaning, disinfecting, and drying techniques is a good thing to do. A complete biosecurity audit can be done by one of our group to identify an action plan.

If your PRRS status allows, now is also a good time to make sure you are getting your weekly feedback of scours back to sows 3 weeks pre-farrow and to your gilts at about 5-6 months in their developer.

Rotavirus can peek its head out as the temperature declines. Maintaining a good scour feedback program can reduce the chance of this.

TGE outbreaks are infrequent but can still cause 3 weeks of suckling pig losses. Make sure that bird netting is in place and secure to prevent TGE introduction.

Intensify rodent baiting to keep those pests from moving from field to barn and finding a new home. Be sure to keep the perimeter mowed 10 feet around all buildings to dissuade these critters from breaking and entering. The 3 feet of gravel surrounding buildings is another deterrent. We encourage farms to check bait boxes once a week and empty dead rodents and keep bait fresh.

It's the time of year where sow farms need to start thinking about ordering the material to batten down cool cells and transition from fall ventilation to winter ventilation. Watch temperature variation in your barns and work to minimize the variation inside barns as our nights get to 30° and the day's high tries to creep upwards.

Also, this winter may be a good time to invest in employee education. If you want your farrowing team to have a refresher course on what it takes to start baby pigs out right or if you would like the breeding department to review good AI techniques,

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CVS veterinarians are very willing to get your team motivated with live training sessions involving pre and post individual testing. We would also be happy to introduce your farm to our training CD's which can be run for individuals or groups on farm. These sessions are very easy to incorporate with a herd visit walk through. Or if a group of producers in a geographic area want to share training cost and bring their farms together for a series of training topics, this is something that often sparks great conversation and learning.

Lastly, another good investment for your farm this winter may be to get it SWAP certified. SWAP stands for Swine Welfare Assurance Program. We have several Certified SWAP Educators at the CVS clinic. Many producers after going through the SWAP program have cited increased employee awareness of what it takes to maintain good husbandry skills on farm. And this awareness has led to increases in production.

Please go to the National Pork Board's web site given below to learn what the SWAP program is all about.

<http://www.porkboard.org/SWAPHome/default2.asp>

Best regards,

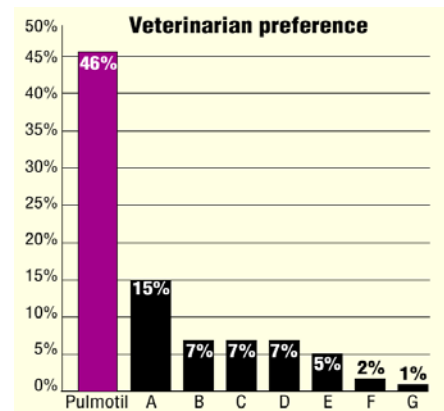
Sarah Probst Miller, DVM

Respiratory Season is Here...Are You Ready?

Nearly every herd in the U.S. suffers from some type of respiratory and PRDC (Porcine Respiratory Disease Complex) infections. Infections like PRRS, *Pasteurella multocida*, APP and *Mycoplasma* can have a dramatic impact on herd health and productivity.

The Solution to Controlling Respiratory Disease

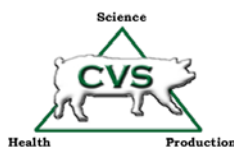
In order to protect your "at risk" pigs from PRDC, veterinarians are recommending **Pulmotil®** to provide protection against PRDC respiratory challenges like APP and *Pasteurella multocida*. In fact, a recent study shows that veterinarians prefer Pulmotil more than 3 to 1 over other feed grade antibiotic drugs.



Why Pulmotil is a Cost-Effective Tool

Record hog prices make it critical that every pig gets to market. **Pulmotil** pays for itself by reducing mortality by 2%, plus you get the added benefits of heavier, healthier pigs all the way through to market! It is easy to see why **it Pays to Use Pulmotil.**

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